AN ADVICE

to the Youth who Have Been Blessed by Allah to Join the Caravan of Jihad

Sheikh Abu 'Abdurahman Mahad Warsame

Al-Kataib

[AL-KIFAH MEDIA]

AN ADVICE
to the Youth who Have Been Blessed by Allah to Join the Caravan of Jihad

Sheikh Abu ‘Abdurahman Mahad Warsame

[AL-KIFAH MEDIA]
1447 | 2025

Table of Contents

Translator's Preface 5

Introduction.....6

The First Advice: Acknowledge the Blessings of Allah 8

The Second Advice: Do not be Ungrateful to the Blessings of Allah.....10

The Third Advice: Strive Hard to be Sincere 13

The Fourth Advice: Always Maintain a Good Character 15

The Fifth Advice: Do not Become Bankrupt 17

The Sixth Advice: Be Obedient to Your Leaders.....19

The Seventh Advice: Strengthen the Unity of the Mujahideen 21

The Eighth Advice: Avoid Religious Disputes 23

The Ninth Advice: Fill Your Time with the Obedience of Allah 27

The Tenth Advice: Appreciate the Ansar 31

The Eleventh Advice: Know that Success is in the Hands of Allah 34

Translator’s Preface

In the name of Allah, The Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful. All praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds, and may peace and blessings be upon the Messenger of Allah, his family, and all his companions. As for the following:

Here is in your hands the series "An Advice to the Youth who Have Been Blessed by Allah to Join the Caravan of Jihad" by Sheikh Abu ‘Abdurahman Mahad Warsame, may Allah protect him, one of the leaders of Harakat Al-Shabaab Al Mujahideen working in East Africa, and more specifically in the land of the two Hijrahs, the proud Somalia.

This series of 11 pieces of advice for the Mujahideen of the movement was originally delivered by Sheikh Abu ‘Abdurahman, may Allah protect him, in the local language. However, the official media wing of Harakat Al-Shabaab Al Mujahideen, the Al-Kataib Foundation, later released the English translation in the form of 11 separate audio clips with their respective transcripts.

Given the richness and accuracy of these precious pieces of advice, and to facilitate the people of Islam in general and the people of front lines in particular to reach them, it seemed appropriate to us (Al-Kifah Media Foundation) to bring them together in a single work, without altering the official translation, except to correct a few minor errors or provide additional information.

We ask Allah, the Exalted, to benefit Islam and Muslims, Jihad an Mujahideen, and to place these pieces of advice in the balance of the good deeds of Sheikh Abu ‘Abdurahman Mahad Warsame and all those who contributed to its propagation. Ameen.

Introduction

In the name of Allah, The Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful. All praise is due to Allah, and may peace and blessings be upon the Messenger of Allah, his family, companions, and those who are loyal to him. As for the following:

All praise is due to Allah who has made us Muslims and rescued us from living in lands that he is not pleased with and that are governed by the disbelievers and Christians. All praise is due to Allah.

I wish to present you with a few brief advices that are worthy of contemplation and that will help us to correct our perceptions, enlighten our thoughts and keep our foothold firm upon the straight path of Allah.

These are advices aimed at our Mujahideen brothers who have been blessed by Allah to reach the lands of Jihad and whom Allah has alleviated from them the burden, guided them to the path of truth, liberated them from the difficulties they have endured under the disbelievers and apostates, and has enabled for them to freely worship Allah whilst living a life of dignity in the lands of Jihad.

Allah, the Exalted, has promised the Mujahid who has emigrated from his land and left his family for the sake of Allah that He will compensate him with a life of ease and tranquillity. Allah, the Exalted, said in the Qur'an,

﴿**He who emigrates** (from his home) **in the Cause of Allah, will find on earth many dwelling places and plenty to live by. And whoever leaves his home as an emigrant unto Allah and His Messenger, and death overtakes him, his reward is then surely incumbent upon Allah. And Allah is Ever Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.**﴾ [An-Nisaa, 100]

Allah, the Exalted, also said,

﴿**O' My slaves who believe! Certainly, My earth is spacious. Therefore worship Me** (Alone)**.**﴾ [Al-Ankaboot, 56]

These beneficial advices have been left for us by Sheikh Abu Yahya al-Libi, may Allah have mercy on him, who has done a lot for the Jihad in Somalia and was given the title "The Preparer of the Army of Difficulty" by Sheikh Abu Zubeyr, may Allah accept his martyrdom. We ask Allah to grant the Sheikh an immense reward and make us from those who benefit from these advices.

The First Advice:
Acknowledge the Blessings of Allah

﴿**He who emigrates (from his home) in the Cause of Allah, will find on earth many dwelling places and plenty to live by. And whoever leaves his home as an emigrant unto Allah and His Messenger, and death overtakes him, his reward is then surely incumbent upon Allah. And Allah is Ever Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful**﴾ [An-Nisaa, 100]

My advice to the Mujahid is that in order for you to understand the blessing that Allah has bestowed upon you today, remember the state you were in when you were living in your own land and amongst your family. Remember how you used to long for Jihad and wanted to join the ranks of the Mujahideen. Remember how you used to wish to become a Mujahid who fights in the cause of Allah.

Remember how you used to supplicate to Allah and make Du'a all day and night, asking Him to rescue you from the oppressors and to provide you with a helping hand. We hope that Allah has accepted your prayers and has given you all that you have asked for and much more.

Allah has replaced your sorrow with happiness and has relieved you of your burden. Allah has guided you to the straight path. He has enabled you to reach a safe land and to be amongst people who love you, support you and defend you.

Allah has united you with the Mujahideen whom you use to rejoice at their sight and you have finally became part of them, living in the Islamic Wilayat and under the shade of Shari'ah. Allah, the Exalted, said,

﴿**And if you would count the blessings of Allah, never could you be able to count them. Truly! Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.**﴾ [An-Nahl, 18]

Therefore, if Allah has bestowed upon you such enormous blessings, you must be careful not to become weary as the days go by and then change your intentions with which you came to Jihad for.

Beware, my dear Mujahid brother, of perceiving as falsehood what you yesterday recognised to be truth. Beware that your heart becomes hardened, upon which you then try to destroy the very Jihad that you used to long to participate in. Beware of regarding your brothers as your enemies, to the extent that you become blinded from all their good deeds by hate, eventually leading you to forget about all the blessings and bounties that Allah has bestowed upon you.

It is narrated in "Al-Ibana Al-Kubra" by Ibn Batta on the authority of Ibrahim that he said, *"The righteous people before us used to deem hypocrisy in religion as uncertainty of the heart regarding Allah."*

One day Abu Mas'ud Al-Badri, may Allah be pleased with him, entered upon Hudeyfa, may Allah be pleased with him, and said to him, *"Advice me." Hudeyfa, may Allah be pleased with him, said, "Have you not reached certainty yet regarding your faith?" Abu Mas'ud said, "By the Might of my Lord, I have." Hudeyfa, may Allah be pleased with him, then said, "Know that misguidance in its truest form is to accept what you rejected yesterday and reject that which you accepted yesterday. Beware of hypocrisy, for, indeed, the religion of Allah is one."* Narrated by Abdur-Razaq [21378] and Al-Bayhaqi [19896]

The Second Advice:
Do not be Ungrateful to the Blessings of Allah

﴿That is so because Allah will never change a grace which He has bestowed upon a people until they change what is in their own selves. And verily, Allah is All-Hearer, All-Knower.﴾

[Al-Anfaal, 53]

My second advice to the Mujahid brother is: Be cautious of being ungrateful to the blessing that Allah has bestowed upon you and beware of exchanging that blessing with disbelief that causes tragedies to befall you in this world and a painful torment in the hereafter. Allah, the Exalted, said in the Qur'an,

﴿And whoever changes Allah's blessing after it had come to him, then surely, Allah is Severe in punishment.﴾ [Al-Baqara, 211]

You must always remember the blessing of Allah and thank Allah in abundance for it. Do not become like those who when they were shipwrecked and stranded in the ocean, sought refuge in Allah, humbling themselves and begging him sincerely to relieve their suffering. But when Allah rescued them and granted them safety on the shore, they forgot all about the tragedy that had just befallen them and they began to spread mischief on earth.

They thought that they were safe from the punishment of Allah, but indeed, no one deems themselves safe from the punishment of Allah except those who are the losers. Allah, the Exalted, says,

﴿And when harm touches you upon the sea, those that you call upon besides Him vanish from you except Him (Allah Alone)**. But when He brings you safely to land, you turn away** (from Him)**. And man is ever ungrateful. Do you then feel secure that He will not cause a side of the land to swallow**

you up, or that He will not send against you a violent sand-storm? Then, you shall find no guardian to guard you from the torment. Or do you feel secure that He will not send you back a second time to sea and send against you a hurricane of wind and drown you because of your disbelief, then you will not find any avenger therein against Us?﴾ [Al-Israa, 67-69]

Know that Allah who has saved you from the lands of disbelief is also able to return you back to the lands of disbelief and it is not difficult for Him to return you to the difficulties He has saved you from. Therefore, you must strive hard by worshipping Allah alone with sincerity and being truthful in implementing His Shari'ah. You must fear Allah wherever you are; whether in times of hardship or prosperity, in times of fear or safety, difficulty or ease, for, indeed, Allah does not oppress mankind but it is man who oppresses himself. Allah, the Exalted, says,

﴿**That is so because Allah will never change a grace which He has bestowed upon a people until they change what is in their own selves. And verily, Allah is All-Hearer, All-Knower.**﴾ [Al-Anfaal, 53]

So, if you notice a change in your heart, for example, you notice that you dislike the truth which you once loved to fight for, or that you find that the responsibility you were fulfilling for the Muslim Ummah has become a burden upon you, then you must review your intentions. Search for the cause of this problem, my dear brother, and re-evaluate the state of your heart in order to find a solution that pleases Allah.

An-Nu'man ibn Bashir, may Allah be pleased with him, said, *"I heard the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, say, "The lawful is clear and the unlawful is clear and between them are matters of uncertainty which many people are not familiar with. Therefore, whoever stays away from the matters of uncertainty, he has safeguarded his religion*

and his honour. And whoever delves into the matter of uncertainty, is like a shepherd who grazes his animals near a protected sanctuary and is likely to trespass into it at any given moment. Indeed, every King has a sanctuary and the sanctuary of Allah on earth is what He has made unlawful. Indeed, there is a morsel of flesh in the body. If it is good, then the rest of the body becomes good and if it is corrupt, then the whole body becomes corrupt. And that is the heart." Narrated by Muslim [1599]

The Third Advice:
Strive Hard to be Sincere

﴿Say, Verily, my Salat (prayer), my sacrifice, my living, and my dying are for Allah, the Lord of the universe. He has no partner. And with that I have been commanded, and I am the first of the Muslims.﴾ [Al-An'aam, 162-163]

My third advice to the Mujahid brother is: Always remember to be sincere towards Allah and purify all your deeds for the sake of Allah. Make the intention of your jihad to raise high the word of Allah. Give precedence to your religion over your worldly affairs and do not use your religion to obtain any material gains.

I warn you, my dear brother, from falling into the plots and traps of the Shaitan which will corrupt and harm your Jihad. From among the traps of Shaitan are:

(ar-Riyaa) which is to seek fame and be seen, (as-Sum'a) which is to be heard, (adh-Dhikr) to be mentioned and talked about, (ash-Sharaf) which is to seek a status in the eyes of the people. Strive hard, my dear Mujahid brother, in order to defend yourself from the entrapments and deceptions of Shaitan and seek refuge in Allah from Shaitan and his plots. Allah, the Exalted, said,

﴿And if an evil whisper comes to you from Shaitan (Satan) **then seek refuge with Allah. Verily, He is All Hearer, All Knower.﴾** [Al-A'raaf, 200]

Abu Musa Al Ash'ari, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that a man once came to the Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, and said, *"A man fights for Ghaneema* (for spoils of war)*, and another man fights for fame and to be mentioned, and another man fights to be seen. Which of*

them is considered to be fighting in the path of Allah." The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, *"He who fights so that the word of Allah can be uppermost, he is the one who fights in the path of Allah."* Narrated by Al-Bukhari [2810] and Muslim [1904]

The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, also said, *"Two wolves that are set free among sheep are no more destructive to them than a man's desire for wealth and honour is to his religion."* Narrated by Ahmad [15784], At-Tirmidhi [2376], and others

Therefore, my dear brother, protect your sanctuary from the hidden wolves and do not open upon yourself a Fitnah that you will never be able to find a solution for.

The Fourth Advice:
Always Maintain a Good Character

﴿And it is by the Mercy of Allah, that you dealt with them gently. And had you been severe and harsh hearted, they would have turned away from you; so overlook (their faults), and ask (Allah's) Forgiveness for them; and consult them in the affairs. Then when you have taken a decision, put your trust in Allah, certainly, Allah loves those who put their trust (in Him).﴾

[Aal-'Imraan, 159]

The fourth advice to my Mujahid brother is to work hard at maintaining a good character and observing good manners at all times, because these are the heaviest of deeds on the scales on the Day of Judgement. Some of the scholars have defined good manners as; withholding your harm from the people, being generous, and sacrificing that which you love and being polite and courteous. You must strive hard, my dear Mujahid brother, to treat your fellow Muslim brothers as you would like to be treated. Do not become someone who creates divisions among the Mujahideen or is harsh in his dealings towards them. Do not be someone who severs the bonds of brotherhood, or someone who despises and harms his brothers. Do not humiliate your brothers, insult them, be arrogant towards them or scorn at them whenever you meet them.

Be someone who listens to his brothers, is kind and compassionate towards them. Be someone who stands by their side whenever they need him; someone who helps them and is open hearted towards them. Emulate the Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, in his character and his noble manners in the same way you emulate him in his prayers and Jihad, for he is the best then you will be example for us. And if you emulate

the character of the Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, then you will be someone who truly loves Him. While praising the character of the Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, Allah, the Exalted, said,

﴿**And verily, you** (O' Muhammad, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him,) **are on an exalted standard of character.**﴾ [Al-Qalam, 4]

Allah, the Exalted, also said, ﴿**And it is by the Mercy of Allah, that you dealt with them gently. And had you been severe and harsh hearted, they would have turned away from you.**﴾ [Aal-'Imraan, 159]

Allah, the Exalted, also said, ﴿**Verily, there has come to you a Messenger from amongst yourselves. It grieves him that you should be afflicted by any injury or difficulty. He is anxious over you, and towards the believers, he is full of pity, kind, and merciful.**﴾ [At-Tawba, 128]

The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, *"Indeed the most beloved among you to me, and the one who will sit nearest to me on the Day of Judgement is the best of you in character. And indeed, the most disliked among you to me, and the ones who will sit furthest away from me on the Day of Judgement are the Thartharun* (the talkative ones)*, the Mutafaihiqun* (the arrogant ones)*, and the Mutashaddiqun* (the ones who talks about people unnecessarily and revile them)." Narrated by Ahmad [Hadith 17732], At-Tirmidhi [Hadith 2018] and Ibn Hibban [Hadith 5557]

And Masruq said, We were sitting with 'Abdullah bin 'Amr when was narrating to us a hadith. Then he said, *"The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, was neither one who spoke evil nor one who conveyed evil speech and he used to say, "The best among you are the best in character* (i.e. those who have good manners)." Narrated by Al-Bukhari [Hadith 6035]

The Fifth Advice:
Do not Become Bankrupt

﴿And those who harm believing men and women undeservedly bear on themselves the crime of slander and a plain sin.﴾

[Al-Ahzaab, 58]

The fifth advice that I wish to convey to my Mujahid brother is do not become someone who is devoid of all goodness and one who misses out on a great virtue. Let not someone else take your good deeds away from you whilst you take his bad deeds. Do not become like a person who worships all Allah day and night and then when the time comes for him to reap the rewards of his righteous deeds, is shocked to find that all his good deeds have been transferred to others beside him.

Beware, my dear Mujahid brother, of lying and harming the Muslims with your tongue and your hands. Do not backbite the Muslims or sow the seeds of discord and dissent amongst the Mujahideen who are united. Do not belittle your brothers and know that the reason you made Hijrah and Jihad in the first place was in order to sacrifice your soul in order to help your brothers, stand by their side and defend them from the aggressive enemy. Know - my dear Mujahid brother - that the reason you took up arms was to defend the honour of your brothers; therefore, do not harm them with your tongue. The true Muslim is the one whom other Muslims are safe from his tongue and his hands. Allah, the Exalted, said,

﴿**And those who harm believing men and women undeservedly bear on themselves the crime of slander and a plain sin.**﴾ [Al-Ahzaab, 58]

And on the authority of Abu Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, *"Do you know who*

the bankrupt is?" They said, "Among us, the one who has no money or goods is the one who is bankrupt." He said, "The one who is bankrupt among my Ummah is the one who will come on the Day of Resurrection with prayer (Salat)*, fasting* (Saum) *and charity* (Zakat)*, but he will come having insulted this one, slandered that one, consumed the wealth of this one, shed the blood of that one and beaten this one. They will each be given from his good deeds, and if his good deeds run out before the scores have been settled, some of their bad deeds will be taken and cast upon him, then he will be thrown into the Fire.*" Narrated by Muslim [Hadith 2581]

And it was narrated from Thawban, may Allah be pleased with him, that the Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, *"I certainly know people from my nation who will come on the Day of Resurrection with good deeds like the mountains of Tihamah, but Allah will make them like scattered dust." Thawban then said, "O' Messenger of Allah describe them to us and tell us more about them, so that we do not become among them unknowingly."* The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, *"They are your brothers and from your race. They worship Allah at night as you do, but they are people who, when they are alone and secluded, they transgress the sacred limits of Allah."* Narrated by Ibn Majah [Hadith 4245]

The Sixth Advice:
Be Obedient to Your Leaders

﴿O' you who believe! Obey Allah and obey the Messenger, and those of you who are in authority. (And) if you differ in anything amongst yourselves, refer it back to Allah and His Messenger, if you believe in Allah and in the Last Day. That is better and more suitable for final determination.﴾

[An-Nisaa, 59]

The sixth advice to my Mujahid brother is to strive hard in trying to fulfil the commands of your leaders when they command you with good and make your obedience to them an act that brings you closer to Allah. Do not perceive your submission to their commands as a burden upon you and an obstacle in your path. Know that your leaders are no different from you nor are they superior to you in anyhow except for the burden of responsibility that they carry upon their shoulders. They would all have loved to be relieved of their responsibilities and be spared the burden that comes along with it, we deem them as such and Allah is the best Reckoner.

The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, *"You will be eager to obtain leadership and it will be a thing of regret for you on the Day of Judgement.*" Narrated by Al-Bukhari [Hadith 7148]

Know - my dear Mujahid brother - that Jihad is founded upon the pillars of unity and adhering to the Jamaa'ah - to the group of Muslims - and that the Jamaa'ah is established upon leadership, and that leadership is fundamentally based upon listening and obeying. Do not disobey your leader even if he is younger than you, or less knowledgeable than you are, or weaker in strength, or has less experienced than you have, or his appearance is less pleasing

to the eyes than you are. Support him as long as he remains steadfast upon the truth, and advise him if he falls short and beware of treading the path of those who said,

﴿**How can he be a king over us when we are more deserving of the kingdom than him, and he has not been given enough wealth.**﴾ [Al-Baqara, 247]

Let your objective be seeking the pleasure of Allah and not following your desires. Allah, the Exalted, said,

﴿**O' you who believe! Obey Allah and obey the Messenger, and those of you who are in authority. And if you differ in anything amongst yourselves, refer it back to Allah and His Messenger, if you believe in Allah and in the Last Day. That is better and more suitable for final determination.**﴾ [An-Nisaa, 59]

On the authority of Abu Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, the Prophet said, *"Whoever obeys me has obeyed Allah and whoever disobeys me has disobeyed Allah. Whoever obeys his leader has obeyed me and whoever disobeys his leader has disobeyed me."* Narrated by Muslim [Hadith 1835]

The Seventh Advice:
Strengthen the Unity of the Mujahideen

﴿And be not as those who divided and differed among themselves after the clear proofs had come to them. It is they for whom there is an awful torment.﴾ [Aal-'Imraan, 105]

The seventh advice that I wish to offer my Mujahid brother is to strive hard in adhering to the Jamaa'ah and building the bonds of unity among the Mujahideen. Stay away from everything that can lead to the creation of divisions and discord among the Mujahideen. My dear brother, be a source of assistance and strength for the Mujahideen and do not be a burden upon their shoulders. Strive hard in doing everything you can to bring the Mujahideen close to one another, solidify their ranks and unify their word. Be someone who encourages the Muslims to love the Mujahideen and portray them in a good light.

On the other hand, stay away from everything that brings about discord and disunity among the Mujahideen, or divides them and creates enmity and animosity with their ranks.

Be cautious of anyone who tries to cause rifts amongst the Mujahideen and advise them to cease from their actions. Do not be an enemy of Jihad without you knowing while you claim to love Jihad and the Mujahideen. Let not your actions be an obstacle in the path of the victory that you hope to achieve, because divisions and disputes are the main causes defeat. Disputes and disagreements are harmful to the unity of the Mujahideen and know, my dear brother, that it is only a small spark that kindles huge fires. Allah, the Exalted, said,

﴿**And do not dispute** (with one another) **lest you lose courage and your strength departs.**﴾ [Al-Anfaal, 46]

Allah, the Exalted, also said, ﴿**And be not as those who divided and differed among themselves after the clear proofs had come to them. It is they for whom there is an awful torment.**﴾ [Aal-'Imraan, 105]

On the authority of Abu Hurairah. may Allah be pleased with him, the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, *"Allah likes three things for you and dislikes three things for you. He likes for you to worship Him and not associate any partners with Him, and to hold on fast to the rope of Allah altogether and not be divided, and that you advice those whom Allah has appointed as leaders over you."* Narrated by Muslim [Hadith 1715]

Know, my dear Mujahid brother, that the blessing and mercy of Allah is in the unity of the Muslims and that the punishment lies in their disunity and division, and, indeed, the wolf only preys on the lone sheep that strays away from the herd.

The Eighth Advice:
Avoid Religious Disputes

﴿And say not that of which you have no knowledge. Verily! The hearing, and the sight, and the heart, of each of these, you will be questioned (by Allah).﴾ [Al-Israa, 36]

The eighth advice to my Mujahid brother is to avoid all disputes regarding matters of the religion and contrasting the rulings of Allah against one another. Do not express your opinions about Islamic rulings, whether on major or minor issues, without firm knowledge and piety. Know that a person is safe as long as he remains silent. Once he speaks, however, then his words will be held either for him or against him, both in this world and the hereafter. Allah, the Exalted, said:

﴿And say not that of which you have no knowledge. Verily! The hearing, and the sight, and the heart, of each of these, you will be questioned (by Allah).﴾ [Al-Israa, 36]

Be aware, my dear brother, of spreading rumours, asking too many questions and refrain from everything that may lead to disputes. Submit fully to the truth and do not open upon yourself and your brothers the doors of evil that you will not be able to close. Live with your brothers in harmony and do not disagree with them. Be lenient and do not be harsh towards them.

From among the advice of the Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, to Mu'adh and Abu Musa, may Allah be pleased with them, was: *"agree with one another and do not differ."* Narrated by Al-Bukhari [Hadith 3038] and Muslim [Hadith 1733]

And on the authority of Jundub ibn Abdillah, may Allah be pleased with him, the Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, "*Recite and study the Qur'an as long as you agree about its interpretation, but once you have any difference of opinion* (regarding its interpretation and meaning) *then you should stop reciting it* (for the time being)." Narrated by Al-Bukhari [Hadith 5060] and Muslim [Hadith 2667]

In this hadith is an important lesson for us to consider, and that is: disputes cannot be solved through arguments and debates and that its results are not praiseworthy. Rather, it is better to avoid arguing altogether and remain silent. Therefore, if the Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, has forbidden the companions from arguing about the Qur'an, what would be the case for anything else besides the Qur'an, such as matters of Ijtihad in which the scholars hold different opinions? The answer is that religious debates do not yield a fruitful outcome, no matter how well organised they are.

The different experiences and lessons that we have learned through Jihad also attest to this fact and we have practically seen that debates and refutations are of no benefit, rather it is a bad habit which the Mujahideen should be cautioned against, especially in this current age and the Fitnah of social media.

The following of one's desires, engaging in meaningless debates, the constant bickering, issuing rulings without any evidence, accusing others and slandering them, seeking fame and status, lying and spreading the secrets and faults of the Muslims online, all these are the common traits associated with social media platforms and those who use it.

So, I would like to take this opportunity to caution the Mujahideen, particularly the Mujahideen scholars, to stay away from religious debates and refutations

that are not founded upon sound knowledge and piety and that are often held on the social media platforms.

And know that from amongst the punishments that Allah has reserved for those who stray away from His path is that He causes them to disagree among themselves, which then destroys the blessings, causes them to despair and, eventually, destroys their character.

The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, *"No people go astray after having followed the right guidance, except that they engaged in disputes."* Narrated by Tirmidhi [Hadith 3253] and Ibn Majah [Hadith 48]

Do not be someone who stands as an obstacle in the path of the Ummah and his brothers and unwittingly prevents them from all that is good.

On the authority of ‘Ubaadah Ibn Saamit, may Allah be pleased with him, the Prophet of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, came out to inform the people about Laylatul Qadar - the night of decree - but there was an argument between two men from amongst the Muslims. The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, then said, *"I came out to inform you about* (the date of) *Laylatul Qadar, but as so-and-so had an argument, and as a result its knowledge was taken away and maybe it is better for you. Now, look for it in the 7th, the 9th and the 5th* (of the last 10 nights of the month of Ramadan)*."* Narrated by Al-Bukhari [Hadith 49]

Badr al-Din al-‘Ayni said whilst mentioning the benefits derived from this hadith, *"Arguments and personal disputes are a cause for the entire Ummah to be punished. Because the entire Ummah was prevented from being informed about the exact date of Laylatul Qadar because of a personal dispute that took place between two people, while the Messenger, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, was still amongst the companions."*

Know, my dear Mujahid brother, that by leaving disputes and arguments, Allah will reward you with a house on the outskirts of Jannah as guaranteed by the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.

The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, *"I am the guarantor of a house on the outskirts of Jannah for the one who refrains from arguing, even if he is in the right."* Narrated by Abu Dawud [Hadith 4800]

The Ninth Advice:
Fill Your Time with the Obedience of Allah

﴿O' you who believe! Violate not the sanctity of the Symbols of Allah, nor of the Sacred Month, nor of the animals brought for sacrifice, nor the garlanded (animals, etc.) nor the people coming to the Sacred House (Makkah), seeking the grace and pleasure of their Lord. But when you finish the Ihram (of Hajj or Umrah), you may hunt, and let not the hatred of some people who (once) stopped you from Al-Masjidul Haram lead you to transgression. Help one another in virtue and piety; and do not help one another in sin and transgression. And fear Allah, Verily, Allah is severe in punishment.﴾ [Al-Maa'idah, 2]

The ninth advice to my Mujahid brother is: fill your time with the obedience of Allah and perform as much as you can of righteous deeds. The land of Jihad is like a market. Those who benefit from it are those who work hard and those who lose in it are those who waste their time. Therefore, take advantage of this great opportunity, my dear Mujahid brother, before this market closes and work towards that which will benefit you in the hereafter. Seek assistance from Allah and do not ever feel weak and helpless. Do not depend exclusively on your Jihad and do not be deceived by the whispers of your soul that tell you that because you are a Mujahid who participated in many battles and was stationed in Ribat at the frontlines for a long time that you have done enough. Rather, you should perform different acts of worship that will draw you closer to Allah. Try to have a schedule in which you read a portion of the Qur'an daily, pray Qiyamul Layl and fast voluntarily as much as you can.

Try to read the Adhkar and make sure that your tongue is always moist with the remembrance of Allah. Read what you are able to from the books of knowledge, and do not belittle any act of worship, however small, as it may be that your name will be called from all the doors of Jannah on the day of Judgement.

On the authority of Abu Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, *"Whoever gives two types* (of things) *in charity in the cause of Allah, he will be called from the gates of Paradise, "O Allah's slave! This is good." So, whoever was among the people who used to offer their Salat* (prayers) *regularly, will be called from the gate of the Salat. And whoever was among the people who used to participate in Jihad, he will be called from the gate of Jihad. And whoever was among those who used to give As-Sadaqah* (or charity)*, will be called from the gate of As-Sadaqah. And whoever was among those who used to fast, he will be called from the gate of Ar-Rayan." Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, said, "O' Messenger of Allah! No distress or need will ever befall him he who will be called from these gates. Will there be any one who will be called from all these gates?" The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, replied, "Yes, and I hope that you will be one of them."* Narrated by Al-Bukhari [Hadith 3666] and Muslim [Hadith 1027]

So, my dear Mujahid brother, take time to seclude yourself every now and then, in order to hold yourself to account, contemplate over your shortcomings, correct your mistakes and exhort yourself to fear Allah. Assist your brothers as much as you can and do whatever you can for them; whether it is washing their clothes, cooking their food, cleaning after them, giving them advice or assisting them in the guard duty, especially, those who are weak among them, such as those who are injured or those who are unable to fulfil their duties because of the security constraints upon them. Be patient and seek the reward of Allah through these deeds.

My dear Mujahid brother, be someone who helps his brothers so that Allah may help you, for indeed, whoever Allah is on his side will be successful. Do not be lazy, or slow and sluggish, or easily demoralised and unstable. Do not be someone who follows their desires and is unable to control or restrain himself. Do not be someone, who if things do not go his way, bears grudges against his brothers. Know that Muslims must always help one another in promoting virtue and forbidding evil. Allah, the Exalted, said,

﴿**Help one another in virtue and piety and do not help one another in sin and transgression.**﴾ [Al-Maa'idah, 2]

Use your free time to attend the learning centers, take part in the training camps and travel to the Jihadi frontlines. Strive hard in learning beneficial Islamic knowledge, train yourself physically and take part in Islamic seminars.

Do not waste your time by wandering about idly in the streets, or debating in coffee shops and loitering in the market places. Know, my dear Mujahid brother, that the intentions of your Hijrah was not to waste your time chasing after the Dunya and its material gains. You are a person who is seeking the hereafter and not a merchant seeking to make a profit in this world. You have made a promise with Allah and not with the people. You did not make Hijrah to waste your time in the restaurants; rather, you made Hijrah to spend your time stationed in the battlefields of Jihad. And whoever gives precedence to his material life over the hereafter, will be like someone who has traded an abundant everlasting gain for a miserly profit.

Are the places of worship and the gatherings in which Allah is remembered comparable to places where Allah is displeased with, such as the market place? Of course not, therefore, my dear Mujahid brother, stay away from these places. Stay away from the places where Allah is displeased with except when it is absolutely necessary, such as when tending to your dire needs.

Avoid the coffee shop debates and the constant arguments in restaurants and market places.

Know that the time you waste can never be replaced, therefore hold yourself to account and contemplate over how you spend your time. Always ask yourself this question: what did you benefit from the time you first made Hijrah until this moment? Compare your situation today to how you were yesterday. Whoever discovers that he has improved since he made Hijrah, then he should thank Allah for it, and whoever finds that his situation has deteriorated, then he should blame none other than himself.

The Tenth Advice:
Appreciate the Ansar

﴿And those who, before them, lived (in Al-Madinah) and had adopted the Faith, love those who emigrate to them, and have no jealousy in their hearts for that which they have been given and they give them (the Muhajireen) preference over themselves, even though they are themselves in need. And whoever is saved from his own greed, such are those who will be the successful.﴾ [Al-Hashr, 9]

The tenth advice to my Mujahid brother is to appreciate the rights and virtues of the Ansar. They received you when the people were hostile towards you. They welcomed you warmly when others turned you away. They supported you when others deserted you. They helped you generously when others refused to give you anything. They severed ties with their relatives for your sake when your own relatives severed the ties between you and them because of your Jihad.

They did all that for you without there being any ties of kinship, tribal affiliation or business relations between you and them. And they continue to support you because they see the loyalty and brotherhood between Muslims as an act of worship, to the extent that they sacrificed everything dear to them in order to support you and defend their Muhajireen brothers. They continue to endure all types of difficulties that have afflicted them, their wealth, their families, their farms and their houses. They endured all that in order to attain the pleasure Allah and to support you, my dear Muhajir brother. And we ask Allah to make them among those whom He mentioned in the Qur'an, when He, the Exalted, said,

﴿**And those who, before them, lived** (in Al-Madinah) **and had adopted the Faith, love those who emigrate to them, and have no jealousy in their hearts for that which they have been given and they give them** (the Muhajireen) **preference over themselves, even though they are themselves in need. And whoever is saved from his own greed, such are those who will be the successful.**﴾ [Al-Hashr, 9]

My dear Muhajir brother, be grateful to those who do good from the Ansar and overlook their mistakes. Be someone who truly loves the Ansar and be for them a helping hand and a teacher who teaches the uneducated among them with kindness and wisdom. Respect their elderly, have mercy on their young ones, hold their leaders in high regard, know the rights of their scholars and do not belittle their tribal elders.

Do not seek to uncover their faults. Do not exaggerate their mistakes and try as much as you can to learn about their culture in order to win their hearts. I warn you, my dear Mujahid brother, of disrespecting the Ansar or showing ingratitude towards them, for fear that it will lead to your own destruction. And know that if someone were worthy of mentioning the favours that they have done for others, then surely, the Ansar are the most worthy of people to do that. And it is enough of a sin for a person to belittle his Muslim brother.

The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said while mentioning the virtues of the Ansar, *"So, accept the good* (deeds) *of the good-doers among them and pardon the wrong-doers among them."* Narrated by Al-Bukhari [Hadith 3799] and Muslim [Hadith 2510]

In another hadith, The Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, said, *"O' Allah forgive the Ansar and the children of the Ansar and the grandchildren of the Ansar."* Narrated by Al-Bukhari [Hadith 4906] and Muslim [Hadith 2506]

And I say to the Muslim tribes of the Islamic Wilayat, may Allah reward you greatly for your continuous support of the truth and for the way you have defended the Book of Allah and supported the oppressed Muslims. Only Allah can fully reward you for all that you have done. We truly cherish and value your commitment to Jihad and you will always remain irreplaceable in our hearts.

We ask Allah to protect you, to be pleased with you and to bless you and your wealth. We ask Allah to provide you with everlasting health and prosperity. We ask Allah keep you steadfast upon the truth, and to make you from among the eternal supporters of Jihad and may Allah forgive all your sins.

The Eleventh Advice:
Know that Success is in the Hands of Allah

﴿**Our Lord! Let not our hearts deviate (from the truth) after You have guided us, and grant us mercy from You. Truly, You are the Bestower.**﴾ [Aal-'Imraan, 8]

The final advice to my Mujahid brother is; know, my dear brother, that all success is in the hands of Allah alone and that support comes only from Allah. Therefore, seek refuge in Allah and ask Him for assistance. For, indeed, Allah does not abandon the one who hopes for his mercy. He does not fail to respond to the one who supplicates to Him. And He does not ever reject the one who repents to Him with sincerity and whose heart is filled with remorse.

Turn to Allah for your all your needs. Supplicate to him in abundance, for yourself, your parents, your family and all the Muslims. Make Du'a to Allah for your brothers in Jihad and make Du'a during the times when the Du'a is most likely to be accepted.

Know that we are passing through a difficult phase and that we are surrounded by tribulations of all sorts and no one is saved from these trials and tribulations except the one whom Allah has mercy upon. Allah, the Exalted, said,

﴿**Allah will keep firm those who believe, with the word that stands firm in this world and in the Hereafter. And Allah will cause to go astray those who are the Dhalimoon** (polytheists and wrong-doers, etc.)**, and Allah does what He wills.**﴾ [Ibraahim, 27]

My dear Mujahid brother, you have seen many people whom you used to know, and who once used to love to come to the lands of Jihad. They were

never satisfied with the life that they were living in and were never pleased by it.

So, they endured all types of difficulties and braved the dangers in order to reach the lands of Jihad. Once they reached the land of Jihad with the permission of Allah, however, and finally got what they so desperately yearned for, their hearts suddenly changed. Their faith weakened and they could no longer carry the burden of Jihad and as a result they turned their backs and returned to where they made Hijrah from or even worse, they handed themselves over to the enemy; the same enemy that used to humiliate them and transgress against their honour and their dignity. And there is no power and no strength except with Allah.

Take heed of that fact, my dear Mujahid brother, and do not consider that Fitnah to be an insignificant matter. Rather, learn a lesson from it and ask Allah to save you from it. Beware of being afflicted by the same Fitnah that has befallen them and make Du'a to Allah with the Du'a of the righteous people:

﴿**Our Lord! Let not our hearts deviate** (from the truth) **after You have guided us, and grant us mercy from You. Truly, You are the Bestower.**﴾ [Aal-'Imraan, 8]

Supplicate to Allah with the Du'a of the Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him: *"O' Allah, I seek refuge with You from the disappearance of Your blessing, and from the loss of health, and from the sudden onset of Your wrath, and anything that may lead to Your displeasure."* Narrated by Muslim [Hadith 2739]

Be truthful to Allah and seek to attain his pleasure. Always follow His guidance, put your trust in Him and worship Him in a state of both fear and hope. March forth towards Jihad and do not fear. Let your provisions in your journey be

patience and the Taqwah of Allah, for indeed, Allah will not forsake those who do good. Allah, the Exalted, said,

﴿**And be patient; verily, Allah does not misplace the reward of the good-doers.**﴾ [Hud, 115]

And may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon the Messenger of Allah, his family and his companions.